PERIODICO EN ESPAÑOL ADENTRO

CHALLENGE

THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMUNIST NEWSPAPER OF PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY

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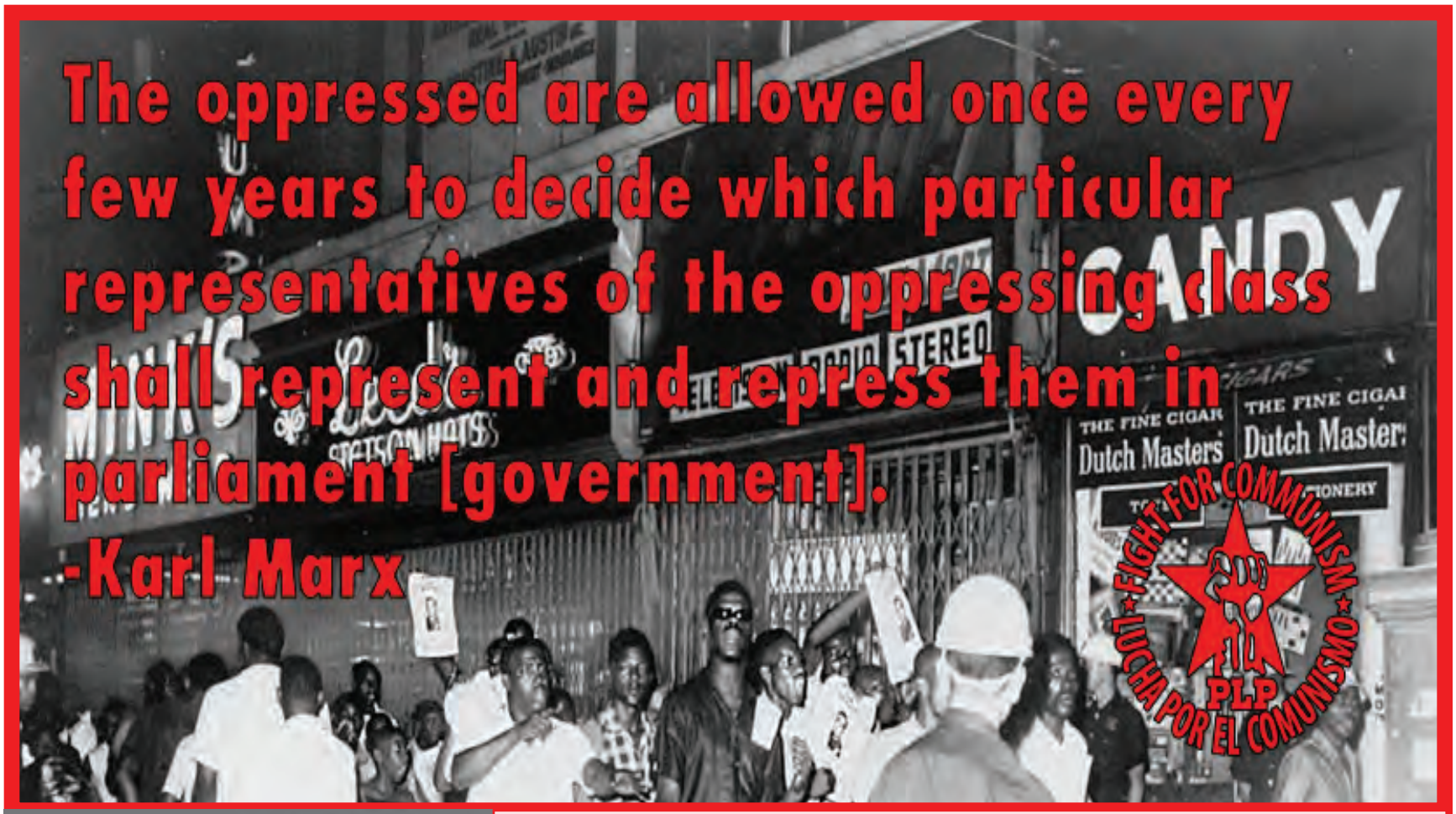
SPRINGFIELD SOLIDARITY

COMBAT RACISM AGAINST HAITIAN WORKERS


The oppressed are allowed once every few years to decide which particular representatives of the oppressing class shall represent and repress them in parliament [government].
-Karl Marx
CANDY
STEREO
THE FINE CIGAR
Dutch Masters
FIGHT FOR COMMUNISM
LUCHA POR EL COMUNISMO
PLP

See article on page 2 for our analysis on the upcoming election.

Instead of voting, we could stage antiracist rebellions, shutting down cities down like Black workers in Harlem (depicted above) did in the 60s with the leadership of PLP. Mass urban rebellions led by Black workers across U.S. cities not only brought about material changes for Black workers it showed mass anger and violent fightback is key. Black workers armed with communist ideas are key to taking down the whole system.

SPRINGFIELD, OH, October 14 - "This was great! I'm ready to come back." "I'm glad you invited me, and I'm ready to meet whenever you set it up. Just let me know and I will be there." That's how two Black workers from Detroit responded after making the trip to Springfield with Progressive Labor Party (PLP) today. A carload of us went to Springfield to meet with workers and protest the racist attacks against workers from Haiti by Donald Trump and JD Vance. The workers in Springfield gave us a warm welcome. They were impressed with us trying to respond and to reach out to workers in Springfield to build support.

We met some friends from Columbus at a Haitian restaurant in a multiracial working-class area. White workers told us they were coming to the restaurant to support the community and enjoy a good Haitian meal. We distributed CHALLENGE newspapers, and workers eagerly took our fliers home, even though some only read Creole. We had many good discussions with Black and white workers about racism and communism. Notably, many white workers de-

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JOIN THE INTERNATIONAL FIGHT FOR COMMUNIST REVOLUTION

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OUR FIGHT

Progressive Labor Party (PLP) fights to destroy capitalism and the dictatorship of the capitalist class. We organize workers, soldiers and youth into a revolutionary movement for communism.

The dictatorship of the working class — communism—can provide a lasting solution to the disaster that is today's world for billions of people. This cannot be done through electoral politics, but requires a revolutionary movement and a mass Red Army led by PLP.

Worldwide capitalism, in its relentless drive for profit, inevitably leads to war, fascism, poverty, disease, starvation and environmental destruction. The capitalist class, through its state power — governments, armies, police, schools and culture — maintains a dictatorship over the world's workers. The capitalist dictatorship supports, and is supported by, the anti-working-class ideologies of racism, sexism, nationalism, individualism and religion.

While the bosses and their mouthpieces claim "communism is dead," capitalism is the real failure for billions worldwide. Capitalism returned to Russia and China because socialism retained many aspects of the profit system, like wages and privileges. Russia and China did not establish communism.

Communism means working collectively to build a worker-run society. We will abolish work for wages, money and profits. While capitalism needs unemployment, communism needs everyone to contribute and share in society's benefits and burdens.

Communism means abolishing racism and the concept of "race." Capitalism uses racism to super-exploit Black, Latin, Asian and indigenous workers, and to divide the entire working class.

Communism means abolishing the special oppression of women— sexism—and divisive gender roles created by the class society.

Communism means abolishing nations and nationalism. One international working class, one world, one Party.

Communism means that the minds of millions of workers must become free from religion's false promises, unscientific thinking and poisonous ideology. Communism will triumph when the masses of workers can use the science of dialectical materialism to understand, analyze and change the world to meet their needs and aspirations.

Communism means the Party leads every aspect of society. For this to work, millions of workers — eventually everyone — must become communist organizers. Join Us!

CONTACT US

Email: desafio.challenge@gmail.com
Mail: Box 808 GPO, Brooklyn, NY 11202
Internet: Online: www.plp.org
Twitter: @PLPchallenge
Facebook: @Challenge Desafio
Instagram: @ PLPchallenge

@PLPCHALLENGE

WHO WRITES FOR CHALLENGE?

CHALLENGE is for the working class, produced by the working class. The fact that CHALLENGE/PLP articles are not signed grows from PLP's criticism of the cult of the individual in the former socialist Soviet Union and China. We do not want to encourage the possibility of building up a "following" around any particular individual.
While an article may be written by one person, the final version is based on collective discussion and criticism. Many times this collective discussion even precedes an individual's writing of an article.

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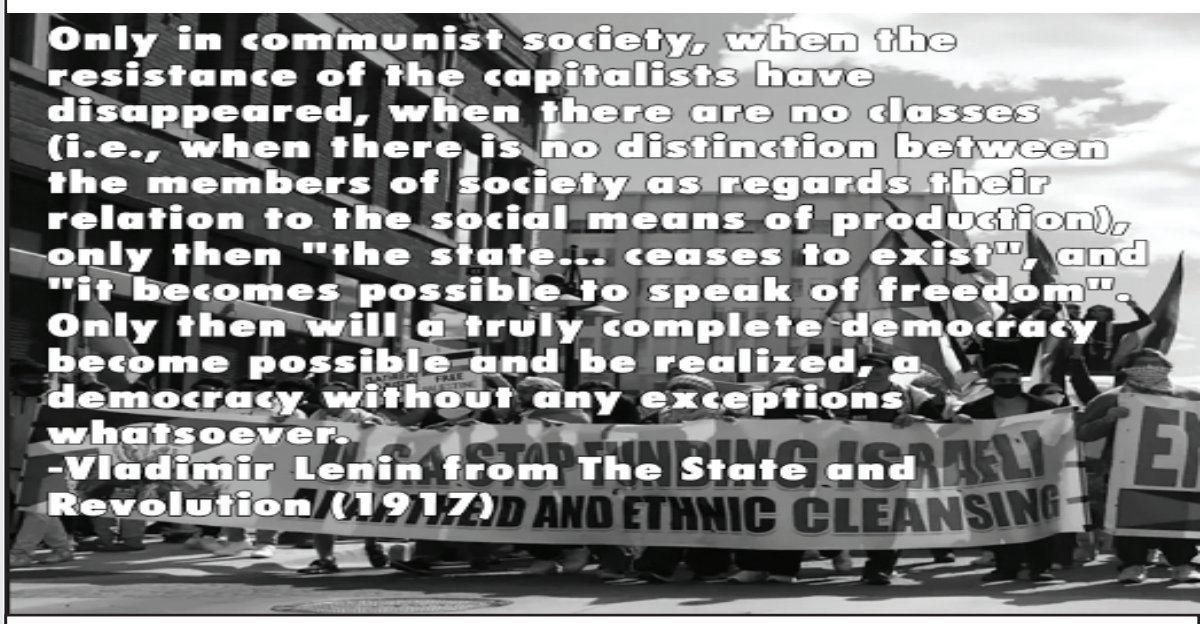
Editorial

Don't Vote, Revolt!


Only in communist society, when the resistance of the capitalists have disappeared, when there are no classes (i.e., when there is no distinction between the members of society as regards their relation to the social means of production), only then "the state... ceases to exist", and "it becomes possible to speak of freedom". Only then will a truly complete democracy become possible and be realized, a democracy without any exceptions whatsoever.
-Vladimir Lenin from The State and Revolution (1917)
AND ETHNIC CLEANSING

Instead of voting for a genocidal kop and a sexist suit and tie klansmen we must continue to take the streets like workers and youth fighting to stop the genocide, and organize to smash this lethal capitalist system that only deals out mass death and destruction. We can stop gencide with communist revolution.

As the U.S. election circus lurches toward its conclusion, it's clear that a vote for either Kamala Harris or Donald Trump is a vote for more genocide in Gaza, more anti-immigrant racism, climate catastrophe, rising fascism, and world war. We're told that we need to choose—and it's true. But for workers worldwide, our only choice is to join and build the international communist Progressive Labor Party. We can't vote our way out of fascism or war. There are no good bosses. We must crush all of the capitalist parasites, once and for all.

The move toward fascism isn't a "choice" by any one politician or party. Fascism is a form of capitalism in acute crisis and decay, when the bosses are forced to peel off their mask of liberal democracy and expose the rotting core of their class dictatorship. Fascism relies on hyper-nationalism, open violence and state terror, and extreme racist scapegoating—both to control the working class and to keep the rulers' own ranks in line.

Two faces of a deadly system: Klansman Trump and Holocaust Harris

Though they represent different groups of bosses with different wells of profit, either Harris or Trump will be compelled to defend a once-dominant U.S. empire now in steep decline. The U.S. is drowning in debt; the future of the U.S. dollar as the globe's reserve currency is in jeopardy. No matter who wins the election, the next U.S. president will face fierce challenges from their nation's imperialist rivals in China and Russia—in the Middle East, in Africa and Latin America, in Ukraine, in the South China Sea. No matter who wins, workers everywhere will face even more vicious attacks.

A second Trump presidency is a scary thing—for his divisive gutter racism and attacks on women's health, for his threat to deport millions of migrating workers, for his open disdain for the climate crisis, for his plan to force Medicaid recipients to work or die. Even so, we believe that Kamala Harris represents a greater danger to our class. If anything, she is a more reliable agent than Trump for the long-term needs of U.S. imperialism. She has shown her true colors in her unflagging support for the Zionist baby-killers and the bloodbath in Ukraine, in her embrace of concentration camps at the Mexican border, in her stated pride that the U.S. is producing more oil and gas than ever before. Like Bill Clinton and Barack Obama and Joe Biden before her, Harris is a bought-and-paid-for agent of finance capital, of the multinational oil companies and the huge banks that keep them in business. She is ready and willing to sign on the dotted line for World War Three. In her acceptance speech at the Democratic convention, she vowed to ensure that "America always has the strongest, most lethal fighting force in the world." As we've witnessed from Southeast Asia to Afghanistan and Iraq, the targets of that force will be millions of our class sisters and brothers.

What makes Harris even more dangerous is her capacity to deceive honest anti-racist, anti-sexist workers. If she wins, her role will be to pacify working-class fighters with the poison of identity politics and liberal lip service to "rights" and "freedoms." Her campaign is built upon deadly, impossible tradeoffs—for workers to look the other way at the mass slaughter in Palestine, for example, in return for a limited and temporary guarantee of reproductive rights. But communists know that an assault on workers anywhere is an assault on workers everywhere. Harris isn't a "lesser evil." Like the billionaires who back her, she's simply evil.

Communism is an egalitarian society based on science, collectivity, and the needs of the international working class. There is just one way to end the nightmare of capitalism. Don't vote – revolt! Organize for communist revolution with PLP!

How to fight fascism

Fascism has yet to be defeated at the ballot box. Historically, it has only been smashed by millions committed to class struggle and led by communists. The Soviet communists annihilated Hitler's Nazi forces; the Chinese communists did the same to the fascists in Japan.

But as the bosses do their worst to mislead and divide us, what is to be done now? Our task is to build a fighting alternative to the bosses' state in every place we can, from workplaces to neighborhoods to schools and universities. We must rebuild mass multiracial movements led by workers and students to fight exploitation, homelessness, racist police murder, and imperialist war. We must support the ongoing strikes by industrial and service workers. We must elevate the class consciousness of soldiers and sailors to turn the guns around against the imperialist warmakers.

The task before us is tall and carries many risks. But the future is bright if we are willing to fight for it! All over the world, working people perform selfless acts of solidarity each and every day. They embody the principles of a communist world, where society is organized around our commitment to one another. One class, one world, one Party! Fight for this communist future today with PLP!

Smash racist landlords with working class solidarity

Housing will always be scarce and unsafe under capitalism because it is treated as a commodity sold for profit, rather than as a fundamental human right. We can change this by fighting for communism, where profits are abolished and housing is guaranteed for all.

LENNOX, CA, October 25—Tonight, fifteen tenant organizers, led by the Lennox-Inglewood Tenants' Union (LITU), confronted a racist and abusive landlord at her house. With the mostly Latin immigrant tenants backing him up, a LITU member handed the owner a letter demanding that her harassment of the five tenants who live on the property stop immediately. The letter also listed the repairs that she has failed to make and told her that, from now on, LITU will be monitoring everything that happens between her and the tenants.

CHALLENGE readers will remember that Progressive Labor Party (PLP) members have been actively working within LITU. We have consistently raised the need for solidarity between workers— locally, nationally and internationally. At a recent tenants' meeting, a PLP member talked about and distributed an article from CHALLENGE describing the struggle led by our comrades in Kentucky against slumlords and the criminalization of homelessness. Our member pointed out that working class people facing displacement around the world have the same interests- to be rid of all these racist and abusive landlords. This can only happen when we build an international working class movement for communism to build a world where housing, no longer being a commodity bought, rented, and sold to make someone rich, will be safe, plenty, and free for all because we will abolish the profit system that creates housing crises.

Working class tenants on the move

This action was organized on short notice. It came out of the continuing work that LITU has done to organize a separate 40-apartment complex in Lennox. With LITU's assistance, tenants there have formed a Tenants' Association (TA) that has regular meetings, collects dues, plans united actions against the scumlord at that building, organizes court support for tenants who face eviction, and plans and holds socials. Several of the active tenants there have told their friends, who don't live at the complex, about LITU's militancy and consistency. A number of those friends have attended the regular TA meetings and have spoken about their own struggles where they live. The TA has heard these tenants out and agreed to back them up. That is what led to this action.

Racist housing conditions

The atrocious conditions that the tenants we supported tonight have been subjected to are typical of what LITU sees in apartments where Black and Latin immigrant workers live. Mold in the bathroom, toilet and bathtub leaks, holes in the walls and floor, and roach and mouse infestation are only some of those conditions. When one of the tenants reported a gas leak to the Fire Department, the racist landlord appeared at the tenant's work site, yelling at her in front of her customers.

When LITU confronted the landlord, she first refused to accept the letter and went inside her house at the rear of the property. A few minutes later, she came outside, took the letter but did not read it, accusing the tenants who live there of lying about how she treats them. She then repeatedly denied that she was still the property owner but insisted that the tenants continue paying rent to her. We told her she had no right to any rent money. As her husband pulled her inside the house, we loudly chanted "los inquilinos unidos, jamás seran vencidos" ("The tenants, united, will never be defeated").

The struggle continues

Afterwards, we celebrated this victory for solidarity in the front yard of one tenant's apartment. As expected, the landlord called the cops. However, we had a plan on how to deal with that eventuality, and our police liaison, backed up by the tenants, made it clear to the cops that there was no basis to detain or arrest anyone. The cops returned later, after most of us had left. However, the tenants told the cops that they know what their rights are. The cops told the tenants that, in the future, they would personally deliver any letter they had for the landlord!! Of course, this was total BS, and the cops knew it.

Under capitalism, working class tenants pay huge rents for rattrap apartments. Bourgeois law protects private property, the profits of the owners and the banks who are behind them. Homelessness stalks the working class as rents squeeze our low wages. Under communism, rents would be abolished. Housing would be shared according to need. That is a world worth fighting for. Join PLP to bring that world about.

Combat anti-Haitian racist terror

Continued from page 1

nounced Trump and Vance for their racist garbage. This experience built our confidence in the working class as the class that can and will run the world in a communist future.

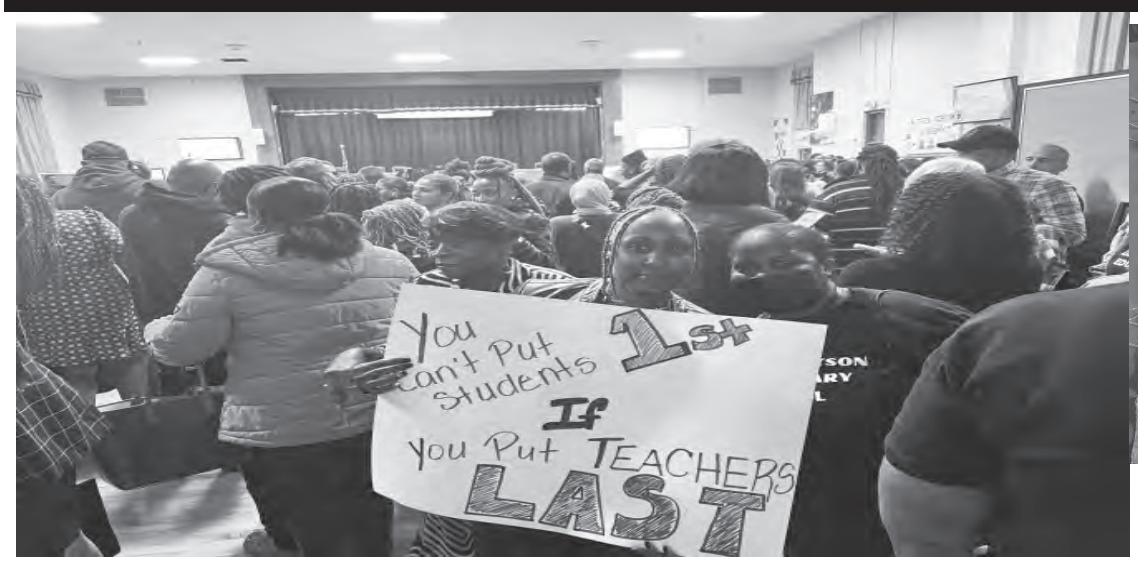
Smash racism, the bosses' tool

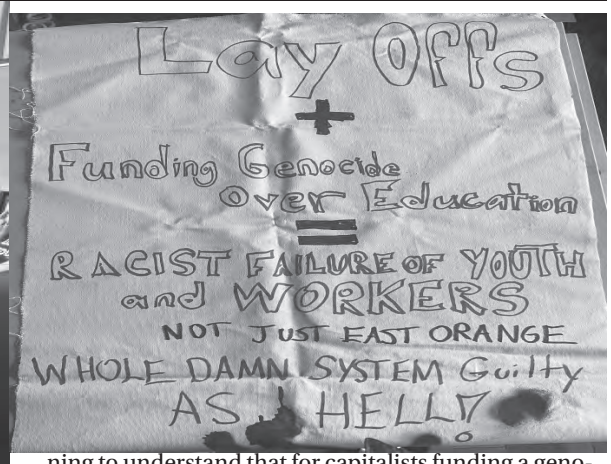
As the capitalist system deteriorates and the billionaires battle over who will control the U.S. economy, they inevitably turn to racism to scapegoat some workers and deflect attention away from themselves. This is their primary weapon to attack all workers and provide cover for their failing system. The immigrants from Haiti are in Springfield legally and have integrated into the community and built their lives here. They contribute to the local economy after 35 years of the auto and steel bosses moving factories overseas. Workers from Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and many industrial cities in the Midwest are suffering as the capitalists prioritize cheaper labor and maximum profits over workers' lives.

Donald Trump's vulgar, racist attacks have emboldened the fascist Proud Boys and Neo-Nazis to march in Springfield and distribute racist literature, forcing many workers from Haiti to temporarily pull their kids out of school and disrupting their daily lives. These are some of the reasons it was so important for our small group to go to Springfield and show solidarity and support for the Haitian community. At the same time, liberals are also no friends to our immigrant brothers and sisters. Big Fascist Kamala Harris has mentioned strengthening border security in response to the charge that democrats have exacerbated the "border crisis," doubling down on the fascist declaration she made in 2021 when she warned migrant workers: "Do not come." (Associated Press, 9/28).

Maybe more importantly, our small action inspired the workers who came with us from Detroit. It was their first action with PLP. They felt it was important to respond to the anti-Haitian gutter racism and after the trip they both took fliers to distribute in their neighborhood. They want to join our study group and learn more about the Party. Our experience shows that even with small numbers, if we are bold, we can make a difference and influence people to fight back against racism and build the Progressive Labor Party.

NJ Students, families, ed workers unite $ for genocide, but not for students




Lay Offs + Funding Genocide over Education = RACIST FAILURE OF YOUTH and WORKERS NOT JUST EAST ORANGE WHOLE DAMN SYSTEM Guilty AS HELL

Capitalism will always put profits first and education for the working class last. Students and educators deserve a communist future that always puts them first.

EAST ORANGE, NJ October 21-23- "We declare justice to keep all teachers, social workers, and counselors. We need to take a stand to avoid cutting the staff that truly care about us everyday. We do not deserve to experience this. We are the future of East Orange…We must unite all together. Just imagine all of us taking a stand," these are the words three courageous 4th graders delivered to a room with hundreds of multiracial students and parents fighting back against the East Orange Board of Education's firing of 93 Black and Latin education workers a mere few months into the school year. This is on top of education workers having their salary level frozen for the past three years. Members of Progressive Labor Party (PLP) spoke out at the recent school board and town council meetings, fighting within these meetings to show the connection between this local fight and looming war and fascism.

Linking the cutbacks to the war budget is an important lesson, but we as communists must win workers and students to see that the ultimate goal is to eliminate capitalism and replace it with a world run by the working class - communism. This reform struggle is also an opening for the working class to realize their power when fighting collectively, as well as teach us the roles that the politicians and union leaders play in trying to keep us passive.

Greater war and fascism means money for genocide - not for students

These cutbacks are just part of a growing attack on workers to accept less as the U.S. ruling class prepares for World War III. Using a $25 million deficit as an excuse for the layoffs, East Orange's newly hired Superintendent, Dr. Christopher Irving, has used the threat of a "state takeover" of the district if education workers don't play along. It is the state of N.J. consistently underfunding the East Orange school district that put them in this mess to begin with!

At the recent Board of Education meeting, one teacher boldly pointed out that there's money being given to Israel's genocide, while not funding education. Since October 7 of last year the U.S. has sent at least $17.9 billion to Israel, not even taking into consideration additional U.S. military spending considered "essential" (PBS, 10/7). This teacher continued, "manipulating staff that is already overworked and children who already need more resources to sacrifice more, and do more with less because the budget money has disappeared, shows us you are the local foot soldiers of a national government who continues to fund genocide from Palestine to Haiti instead of funding our schools." The room erupted in applause.

Grounded in the knowledge that money will always be there when it comes to protecting the interests of the capitalists, workers refused to buy into excuses and proposed "solutions." Instead, workers are beginning to understand that for capitalists funding a genocidal war to protect oil profits is more important than educating working class children.

They want us pacified? We say fight back!

After the cutbacks were announced, the union leadership sent a memo to tell workers to keep working, trying to suppress the rage felt by workers and students. These union hacks want to stop an organized mass movement that wins workers and students to save workers and students. Their fear mongering was an attempt to keep workers disorganized and keep them from seeing that they can fight back against the bosses' laws. That was how an illegal three-day strike by teachers in Massachusetts got a 60 percent wage jump for lower-paid instructional assistants (EdWeek, March 16, 2023).

Despite the union and local leaders' attempts, many workers organized a mass sick-out and protested at the board meetings. This response from a worker embodied the instinct of the masses toward these cowards,

> *I have come to the sobering fact that there is no help on the way…There is no help to calm my anxiety and fear about whether my job is suddenly going to change overnight. Unless we save ourselves, I will continue to work 3 jobs and suffer from stress-inducing insomnia for 10 months out of every year. You play with our emotions, guilting us at times to continue to come to work without a contract [for 3 years] , day in and day out for the sake of the children…but it can no longer be at the expense of our mental health, our children, and our families.*

Continued on page 5

Industrial workers key Boeing: War Maker, Strikebreaker!

SEATTLE, October 24 - Today 33,000 Boeing Machinists voted to continue their 40-day old strike with 64 percent voting NO to a proposed settlement (and $7,000 signing bonus) negotiated by the Biden/Harris administration's Labor Secretary, Julie Su. The workers, who build passenger jets and freighters, began their strike on September 12 after 96 percent voted to reject the tentative agreement between the company and the union. Boeing cut off strikers' health care at the end of September.

The international communist Progressive Labor Party (PLP) supports these workers in their strike against one of the most historically profitable companies on the planet and a critical node for the imperialist war machine. We invite all workers and supporters on the Boeing picket to join the fight to advance communist revolution as the way to crush all the exploiting bosses and their genocidal profit system.

Boeing bosses rakes in billions by killing workers

Boeing is the world's largest aerospace corporation and fourth-largest defense contractor, valued at over $100 billion. Boeing makes the navigation system that guides the 2,000-lb. bomb that assassinated Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah and many others in the middle of a crowded Beirut neighborhood. In partnership with Lockheed Martin and McDonnell Douglas, Boeing has provided F-15 fighter jets, "Apache" helicopters, and hellfire missiles. Over the past 75 years, it's safe to say that hundreds of thousands of Palestinians have been killed by Boeing's weaponry (CounterPunch, 5/24).

But that's not why Boeing workers are on strike. Workers are demanding a 40 percent wage increase, restoration of their pensions, and an end to forced overtime. Starting pay is $20 an hour, just above the area's minimum wage, and it takes six years to reach top pay in your classification. There has been a high turnover since the pandemic, with about 40 percent of workers with less than five years seniority.

So far, the strike has cost Boeing a staggering $6 billion for the quarter and Boeing announced layoffs of managers and canceled parts orders to conserve cash. On October 11, Boeing announced it would eliminate 17,000 jobs in its worldwide work force.

The company has benefitted from the largest tax break in the state's history, a decade of concessions on wages, pensions, and healthcare costs, and more than $6 billion in stock buybacks for shareholders and company executives. This underinvestment in the workforce and product development led to two deadly 737 Max crashes in 2018 and 2019 that killed 350 people and a door panel flying off in midflight this year.

Build a worker-student alliance

The campus-based movement against the growing Middle East war has raised antiracism and anti-imperialism but has lacked the power to significantly impact the war. Striking workers on the other hand, are at all the pressure points and have the power to bring this war, and this whole imperialist system to end, but they lack the political consciousness.

Our most urgent task is to build a communist-led worker-student alliance, to bring political consciousness to bear on the class struggle. The objective meeting the subjective. Striking workers are opening the door to this possibility. Discuss the strike at work and in class. Confront Boeing recruiters on campus. Build the movement for a worker-run society through communist revolution!

PLP's history of fighting back war maker, strikebreaker General Electric

During the Vietnam War, General Electric (GE) was a major war profiteer and tens of thousands of GE workers went on strike. The PLP-led Worker-Student Alliance of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) organized strike support around the slogan, "Warmaker, Strikebreaker, Smash GE!" At a major anti-war mobilization in Washington, DC., SDS led a breakaway march of thousands to the Department of Labor in support of the striking workers. Lyndon Johnson pleaded with the workers to return to work because they were hurting the war effort. At a GE plant in Schenectady, NY, the workers chanted "F–k the war effort" on the picket lines.

Battle of Cable St
Red-led workers fight fascists

REMEMBER
OLYMPIA
MOSLEY SHALL NOT PASS
All out
Against Fascism—the enemy of the people abroad and at home
against Fascism
London Workers ! Anti-Fascists ! Peace-lovers !
THE LONDON COMMUNIST PARTY CALLS TO YOU—
ANSWER MOSLEY'S PROVOCATION
DEMONSTRATE AGAINST
FASCISM IN SPAIN AND BRITAIN — THE BUTCHER GENERAL FRANCO and the JEW BAITER MOSLEY

Pictured left: "They shall not pass" protestors wrote on a barricade as they blocked streets to prevent fascists from entering. Pictured right: Flyer urging calling on workers on Cable Street to demonstrate and beat back Sir Oswald Mosley and his fascist goons. Pictured bottom left: Mural on Cable Street in East London memorializing communist led struggle against fascism,

This past October marked the 88th anniversary of the Battle of Cable Street in London's East End. In 1936, under communist leadership, British and immigrant workers broke through the police lines that protected the fascists, effectively thwarting their attempt to march and organize in working-class neighborhoods. In 2024, this history remains more relevant than ever.

Once again, fascism is on the rise, marked by a surge of racist and sexist attacks on the working class, imperialist wars, genocide, anti-Muslim attacks, scapegoating of migrant workers, and the resurgence of open fascist movements with their leaders seizing power in governments across the U.S. and the EU.

This summer, in the UK, fascism reared its ugly head as fascist groups such as the English Defense League, led by anti-migrant thug Tommy Robinson, and neo-Nazi elements, organized a racist rampage where they burned attacked migrants and Muslim workers. Fortunately, these racists were confronted by hundreds of multiracial, antifascist workers in a battle that lasted six days. Antiracist and antifascist workers and organizers linked arms to protect migrant shelters and fought back against the fascists.

Just a few days ago, a group of fascists took to the streets again to hold a rally in support of their imprisoned co-conspirators.

Once more, antiracist, antifascist workers rose up to make it clear that fascism and racism are unwelcome. The only way that workers can defeat the fascist onslaught is by rebuilding the communist movement everywhere—the only movement with a proven record of stopping fascism dead in its tracks—and smashing capitalism once and for all with communist revolution.

Red-led organizing prepares the battle ground against fascists

The constant communist-led, antifascist organizing over many years led to the understanding and empowerment of the working class. This battle also shows that the working class should never give in to nationalist leaders. Both Jewish and Irish community and religious leaders tried to convince the masses not to fight the fascists, fearful of "causing more problems."

For 300 years, the East End of London had been the home of poor working class immigrants. In 1936 the area's population was largely Polish and Russian Jewish, Irish Catholics and non-immigrant English workers.

In the midst of a severe depression, Sir Oswald Moseley's Blackshirts movement (BUF, British Union of Fascists) was growing among the unemployed, white-collar workers and small businessmen. Moseley sent committed fascists into the East End to beat up and terrorize Jewish-made scapegoats for the economic crisis. On the streets, fascists would scream "kill the k…" (racist insult against Jews)

Ruling class funds the fascists

Many of Britain's upper and ruling class funded the BUF. Some of Britain's big newspapers, such as the Daily Mail, Evening News and Sunday Dispatch, promoted the BUF. The recently crowned King Edward VIII had wealthy fascist friends in Britain, France and Germany. The police often turned a blind eye to the fascists' beatings of Jewish workers.

Moseley decided to show his strength by marching 10,000 uniformed Blackshirts and thousands of supporters directly through the Jewish/Irish neighborhood. The police commissioner Sir Philip Game ordered his cops to support the march.

On October 4, 10,000 cops were assigned to protect Mosley's fascists. The official Jewish "leadership" advised Jewish workers to stay indoors and not show aggressiveness towards the cops.

But up to 500,000 people from the East End and other parts of London came out to stop the fascist march. Communists and trade unionists, many themselves Jewish, led the attack on the fascists in the streets. At Cable Street, the police, armed with nightsticks, attacked, while mounted police charged the crowd. Horses stumbled because children were hurling marbles under their hoofs and bursting bags of pepper under their noses. Women threw the contents of chamber pots from windows.

The fascists screamed derogatory names for Jewish workers. But the people chanted, "They will not pass!"

Jewish, Irish dockworkers unite

The masses erected barricades. A truck was turned on its side to block the street; old mattresses, bricks and pushcarts were thrown on top. An Irish antifascist bus driver drove his double-decker bus across the road, forming a barricade between the police and the antifascists.

The army of fascists demanded the police escort them through the masses of workers. At Cable Street, the massive wall of workers held their ground and only backed off to pick up bricks or bottles to throw at the cops and fascists.

The fascists were under a constant hail of bricks, bottles and stones. Despite arresting over 100 anti-fascist fighters, still the police could not move the masses as they held the cops in a vise grip.

Eventually, the Police Commissioner canceled the BUF's march. But now the police had to save them from being killed by the crowd. They attempted to escape. But the antifascists, waiting for them, shouted, "Get them!" and crashed through the police lines. They then chased the fascists out of London's East End.

For days, people celebrated throughout London. The fascists continued to try to organize, but it was clear that workers wouldn't be easily won to fascism.

Dare to struggle — Dare to win!

NJ Education

The budget cuts are for the war

Continued from page 4

From the masses to the masses: Communist leadership blossoms

When a worker became aware of this attack, they decided to look to a friend for support. The comrade, and member of PLP, saw this as an opportunity to strengthen their bond and fight alongside the district worker.

During the initial school board meeting, racist police tried to invoke fear by escorting the comrade out of the meeting after their speech, and asked questions because they distributed CHALLENGE.

This attack did not stop members of the PLP. We saw this as a key moment to bring more comrades and members of our base to the next city council meeting .We distributed CHALLENGE, and worked collectively to create a leaflet connecting the attacks to sharpening war and fascism. Workers attending the board meeting eagerly took our leaflets. It was clear that many of them were being exposed to communist politics for the first time. We look forward to joining them as future actions are being planned.

Even though this struggle is in its early phases, we were able to win the confidence of our base by showing that there is safety in numbers and that we fight back like our lives depend on it.

LETTERS

We encourage all CHALLENGE readers to send in letters and articles about their experiences fighting the bosses worldwide.

Workers and youth are searching for a communist home

A few weeks ago, several comrades and I went to a protest in Brooklyn connecting the racist and murderous use of KKKops in the subway to the genocide in Palestine. We used the experience of comrades in our group to decide to walk alongside the rally and march, rather than follow the leadership of march organizers who would likely provoke reactions from the police. While we walked alongside the march, a young person, probably in high school, came up to us, shared that he grew up in a Zionist household and that he is trying to educate himself and asked us why we were "pro-Palestine." Although he disagreed with a lot of our ideas, he and around eight of his friends intently listened to our responses to his questions.

Later, as we crossed a street, one person asked us what flag we were holding. We said, "A communist flag!" They replied, "Yeah!!!" excitedly. As the night went on, we befriended a college student who recently moved to NYC and is looking for a communist home. This person later attended one of our study groups. While we helped this student locate his partner, a group of high school girls saw our red flags and approached us, "Wait, you mean actual communism?" They too asked several questions about communism and took papers.

As I was traveling home that night, my train was evacuated and I ended up taking an Uber home. I mentioned to my Uber driver that I was at a protest, which led to a political discussion that lasted all of five minutes. I gave him a copy of CHALLENGE, and he was so interested that I took his contact information and he showed up to our next study group and a game night. The night was incredibly inspiring and reminded me that workers are desperate for solutions that the bosses can't offer, for communist ideas. It is our job to be in these struggles, in the streets, in our schools and jobs, and raise these ideas.

System is violent; don't be silent

In August, one of my students was shot in the neck. Earlier this month, he died. The school was very silent and hush-hush about his having been shot despite it being in the news. A student was the one who let me know that he died, and the school said nothing until two days after that. Even still, the only official word about his death has been one email from our social worker. I am now talking with the social worker about, at the very least, raising some funds for his family.

When kids die, and their school administration, teachers, and staff are silent, it sends the message that their lives didn't matter. This racist system reinforces that message with every breath it takes. Capitalism kills and kills and spreads bloodthirsty lies that more privacy, more police in schools, more metal detectors will keep workers and students safer. I still need to do more to connect more with students and coworkers about honoring his life and do a better job of raising just how murderous and racist capitalism is.

Workers' unity knows no borders

Our Progressive Labor Party (PLP) club and study group are at the center of our organizing. At our last meeting we acknowledged the crisis of the war in the Middle East and Ukraine and the rivalry among imperialists for fascist control of the world's resources, commerce and labor. However, we focused on the immigration issue in the U.S. First we analyzed the capitalists, our class enemy. Trump calls for mass deportations, immigrant concentration camps, a closed militarized southern border and mass racist hate and scapegoating of all immigrants. Harris calls for closing the border, finishing the wall, stopping entry to asylum seekers who must first apply in the first country they enter on their trek to the U.S., and passing the severe bill that Congress failed to pass last spring.

Starting with Trump and continuing with Biden and Harris, detained asylum seekers have been and are being sent to for profit private prisons in various states, especially in the southern states where they are jailed as criminals, even subject to solitary confinement, although almost none have criminal records. There are contradictions for the capitalists. The bosses need cheap labor, especially in agriculture, fishing and meat packing plants. They will need immigrant children and youth as soldiers in their imperialist wars. The working class in the U.S. is deeply divided with racist hate and xenophobia spiraling sharply. Workers blaming fellow workers for all their problems instead of blaming the capitalists and their profit system. Building international antiracist working class unity is PLP's job! Our campaign for a pro-immigrant antiracist movement is starting small. having distributed PLP leaflets in solidarity with the Haitian immigrants in Springfield, Ohio and displaying signs welcoming immigrants and asylum seekers.

We led two committees in the organization we're in to write a letter of support for our sister and brother immigrants in Springfield. Members of the organization got 80 signatures in their committees. We're in the process of reaching out to two groups of Ecuadorian workers. Our efforts to win younger workers will require persistence and patience. At our last study group meeting we collectively committed ourselves to write a new PLP leaflet in solidarity with all immigrants in this difficult period. Along with our friends we will propose and organize a workshop at the organization in early December. We'll continue to ask other groups and churches to display our posters. We must expand CHALLENGE readers' networks and distribution in the street. One friend stressed the importance of strong PLP leadership in our efforts. In action and organizing the working class gains confidence and trust in each other. We have to persevere, he said. Individual workers and students can't solve their own problems. Together we have power, added a comrade. The fight will continue until we can destroy capitalism/imperialism and build a communist society, in keeping with the spirit of fallen comrades like Derek Pearl we fight everyday with unfaltering love for and confidence in the working class!

Election studygroup exposes Harris

Educators in the Progressive Labor Party held a study group focused on rejecting the false choices of electoralism. Base members including a student and teacher attended seeking clarity on the question of voting this November. These base members demonstrated sharp and advanced working-class consciousness: they said that abstaining from the ballot box was already a huge topic with left-leaning people in NYC. Indeed, many workers in NYC have expressed their refusal to look away from the genocide of Palestinians—that one cannot vote for a "lesser" evil that slaughters innocents with incendiary bombs daily is an undercurrent of mass consciousness at our workplaces.

For this reason, our study group focused on advancing mass consciousness with a communist analysis drawn from our Party's line. Instead of viewing each candidate as a "great man" of history acting by their own volition, we examined the constraints faced by the capitalist class as their profit system decays into fascism. We emphasized that the working class can only depend on each other, not the outcome of ruling class elections that reflected two paths of fascism: Big and Small (see the Glossary, p. 6).

We discussed how Donald Trump represents the "Small" Fascists who prioritize domestic interests and wield gutter racism, sexism, and anti-queer sentiment to appeal to reactive nationalistic elements. Without underestimating the violence that the Small Fascists can unleash, we then note how Kamala Harris represented the bigger danger as an avatar of the "Big" Fascists.

With analysis of political economy, we studied how Harris drew together an inclusive multicultural coalition to wage global imperialist warfare in the name of finance capital. That is, with a veneer of progressivism, Harris more easily captures the working class and recruits them for a future of fighting World War III. Hence, Harris has repeated since her nomination speech at the DNC that she will empower the U.S. military to be the "most lethal fighting force" on the planet. For Harris, the U.S. must swell the ranks of the military to perform genocidal violence to secure key resources in a planet beset by climate crisis, inter-imperialist rivalry, and falling rates of profit.

We ended the study group by examining the necessity of organizing the working class in preparing for fascism. We agreed that we must all learn how to adapt to increasingly repressive conditions as the crisis continues to roil capitalism. To do so, we highlighted the necessity of building a militant, international communist party that can retain and debate collective means of revolution. In other words, we stressed the need to build Progressive Labor Party.

Glossary

Capitalists compete by any means necessary. Much like smaller criminal gangs, different groups of capitalists battle one another to secure territory, resources, and exploitable labor–the basis of their profits.They have created the state as a mechanism to manage and protect this ruthless profit-driven system. Through laws, police, prisons, elections, the military, schools, the media, and other institutions, the bosses have built a dictatorship to keep themselves in power—and keep the working class out of power.

Fascism is a stage of late capitalism in crisis where the liberal democratic veil peels away to reveal a rotting dictatorship. The bosses use state terror to discipline their own class and enforce compliance by the working class–both essential conditions for waging global war. Fascism is marked by more direct and centralized rule, with intensified racism, sexism, and nationalism.

The Big Fascists are the dominant finance capitalists, principally the multinational banks and oil companies (JPMorganChase, ExxonMobil). They're trying to build a multiracial, patriotic coalition to back U.S. imperialism and protect their far-flung profits. This is the wing that plays the drums of World War III.

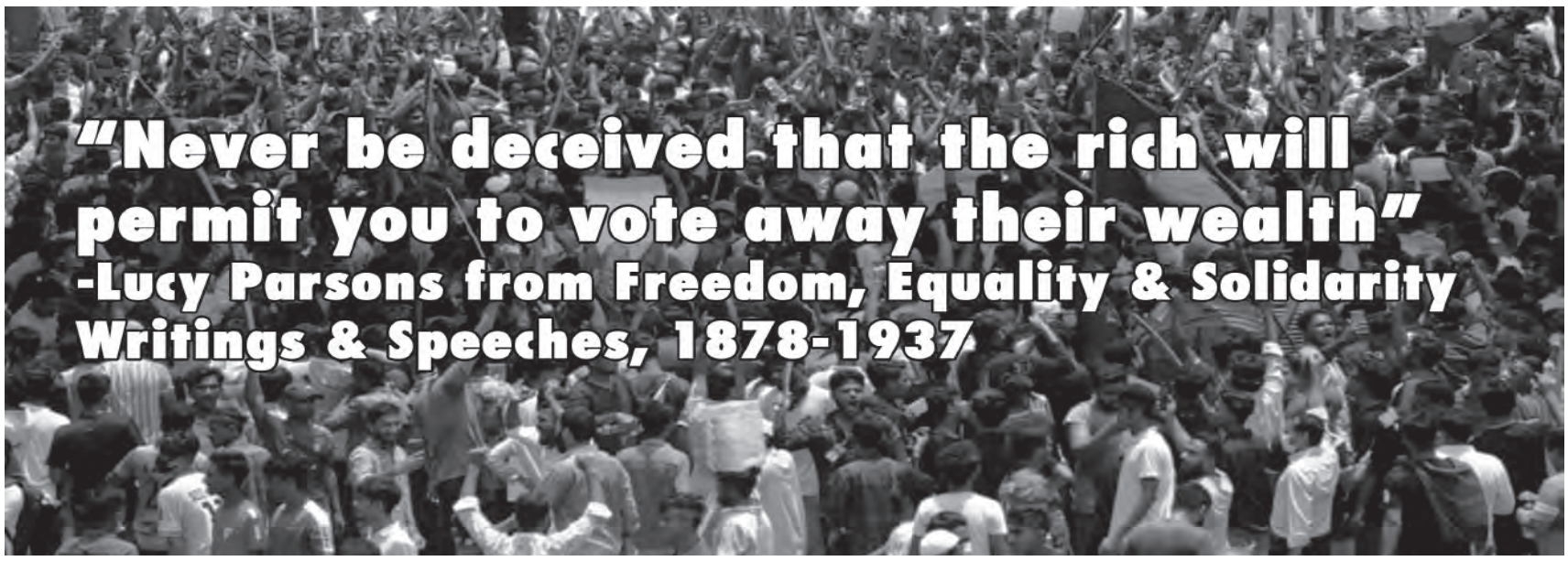
The **Small Fascists** are mostly domestically oriented capitalists, spearheaded by the Koch, Mercer, DeVos, and Coors families, along with Richard Mellon Scaife, Harry and Lynde Bradley, John Olin, Peter Thiel, Elon Musk, Rupert Murdoch and a cast of other billionaires. They want to cut taxes for short-term profits and are reluctant to invest in costly ground wars to defend the global U.S. empire. Their agenda includes a racist gutting of social services at home and a retreat from U.S. imperialist alliances, including NATO.

CHALLENGE CORRECTION

In the eighth paragraph of the 10/30 front papge article on the United Federation of Teachers (UFT) there was a factual error. The article claims that AFSME removed their entire elected NYC leadership but AFSME only removed their retiree leadership.

Voting, the big con

Democracy - Heads they win, tails we lose!


"Never be deceived that the rich will permit you to vote away their wealth"
-Lucy Parsons from Freedom, Equality & Solidarity Writings & Speeches, 1878-1937

Instead of voting we could rebel and shut down business every country like workers in Bangladesh, but workers must be armed with communist ideas to stage a revolution permanently destroy the bosses' states around the world.

Continued from page 8

U.S. today prevailed in 1933 Germany. A "free election" was held. Over 13 million voted for the communists and social democrats. Eleven million voted for Hitler. The German president von Hindenburg then handed over the government to Hitler and his "minority" Nazi party. You know the rest; the Nazis established the most terrorist bosses' dictatorship the world had seen up until that time.

When it appears that workers have elected an anti-capitalist or anti-imperialist government, the bosses simply nullify the elections with armed force and install fascism. In Iran in 1953, in Guatemala in 1954 and in Chile in 1973, the U.S. CIA directed the violent overthrow of elected governments and helped install fascist dictatorship.

Finally, when workers ignore their elected officials and take direct action, the bosses combine the force of the police and army with elections to divert their struggle back within capitalism's rules. In France in 1968, ten million industrial and government workers organized a general strike and shut down the country. After appealing to the German bosses to prepare to send in the German tank corps, the bosses' president DeGaulle made a deal with the fake Communist Party to convince the workers to end the strike in favor of a new election.

PLP has never and will never encourage workers to vote for the lesser of two evils. We have confidence in the working class and we know that the leaders of communist society will come from those ranks.

All capitalist parties lead to war

The bosses are always having peace talks but when their profits are threatened they will resort to war. When workers refuse to make sacrifices for profits the bosses use cops, scabs, injunctions, the National Guard and the Army to whip the working class back into line. They also use force to force weaker bosses to go along with the most powerful.

World Wars I and II were both caused by different capitalists who wanted a bigger piece of world markets. In Vietnam, first the French and later the U.S. wanted to maintain Southeast Asia as their turf. In Panama, the Gulf War and in Somalia, U.S. rulers wanted to maintain control over a strategic area or resource like oil.

The revolutionary communist PLP, the only party the workers need

Workers don't need a "two-party" system which serves only the bosses. Workers need only one party, the revolutionary communist Progressive Labor Party which serves the needs and aspirations of our class, the working class. PLP is organizing in ten countries on four continents to destroy the bosses and their profit system. We will establish a communist society, led by our class's communist party - composed of hundreds of millions of workers, students, soldiers and sailors - eventually everyone on the planet.

Communist revolution means that the working class, led by its communist party, takes power from the capitalist class. We will run society for the benefit of all workers. The working class will own everything and decide through its communist party what and how much to produce and distribute it according to need. The needs of the working class around the world will be the basis for these decisions. We will end racism, sexism, and imperialist war which the bosses create and use to divide and control us to maximize their profits. In communist society there won't be elections to choose leaders. There will be only one party, because workers everywhere (unlike the bosses) all have a common interest. This party will make and carry out all policy decisions collectively, in a centralized way.

Build PLP and fight for communist revolution

The bosses will tell us that they are all-powerful; that capitalism is "human nature"; that they can't be overthrown. Every worker and youth who becomes a communist, who joins the PLP , proves that this is a lie. When you join and build PLP you are planting the seeds of our communist future. The more seeds, the sooner the flower of revolution will destroy the rotting profit system and encircle the globe with communist liberation.

RED EYE ON THE NEWS . . .

China-U.S. conflict over Taiwan continues to escalate

Reuters, 10/14–China's military started a new round of war games near Taiwan on Monday, saying it was a warning to the "separatist acts of Taiwan independence forces" and offered no date for when they may conclude ... Taiwan, which China views as its own territory, had been on alert for more war games since last week's national day speech by President Lai Ching-te ... said China had no right to represent Taiwan even as he offered to cooperate with Beijing ... The Chinese military's Eastern Theatre Command said the "Joint Sword-2024B" drills were taking place in the Taiwan Strait and areas to the north, south and east of Taiwan ... Chinese ships and aircraft are approaching Taiwan in "close proximity from different directions", focusing on sea-air combat-readiness patrols, blockading key ports and areas, assaulting maritime and ground targets and "joint seizure of comprehensive superiority" ... China's coast guard circled Taiwan and staged "law enforcement" patrols close to Taiwan's offshore islands.

North Korean troops headed to fight in Ukraine

National Public Radio, 10/24–South Korea's president vowed on Thursday to respond to North Korea's deployment of troops to Russia, including by potentially supplying offensive weapons to Ukraine ... South Korea's intelligence chief told lawmakers Wednesday that North Korea has sent 3,000 troops, including special forces, to Russia for training, and that the North plans to increase that number to 10,000 by December.

The deployment of North Korean troops could add to concerns that the war risks spilling over and affecting tensions in Asia, from the Korean Peninsula to the Taiwan Strait ... The North Koreans will likely be put "in charge of security and such at first. But as time goes by, and with training, they may be able to support Russian operations," Lee says. "Then, it is expected that there will be many casualties during that process."

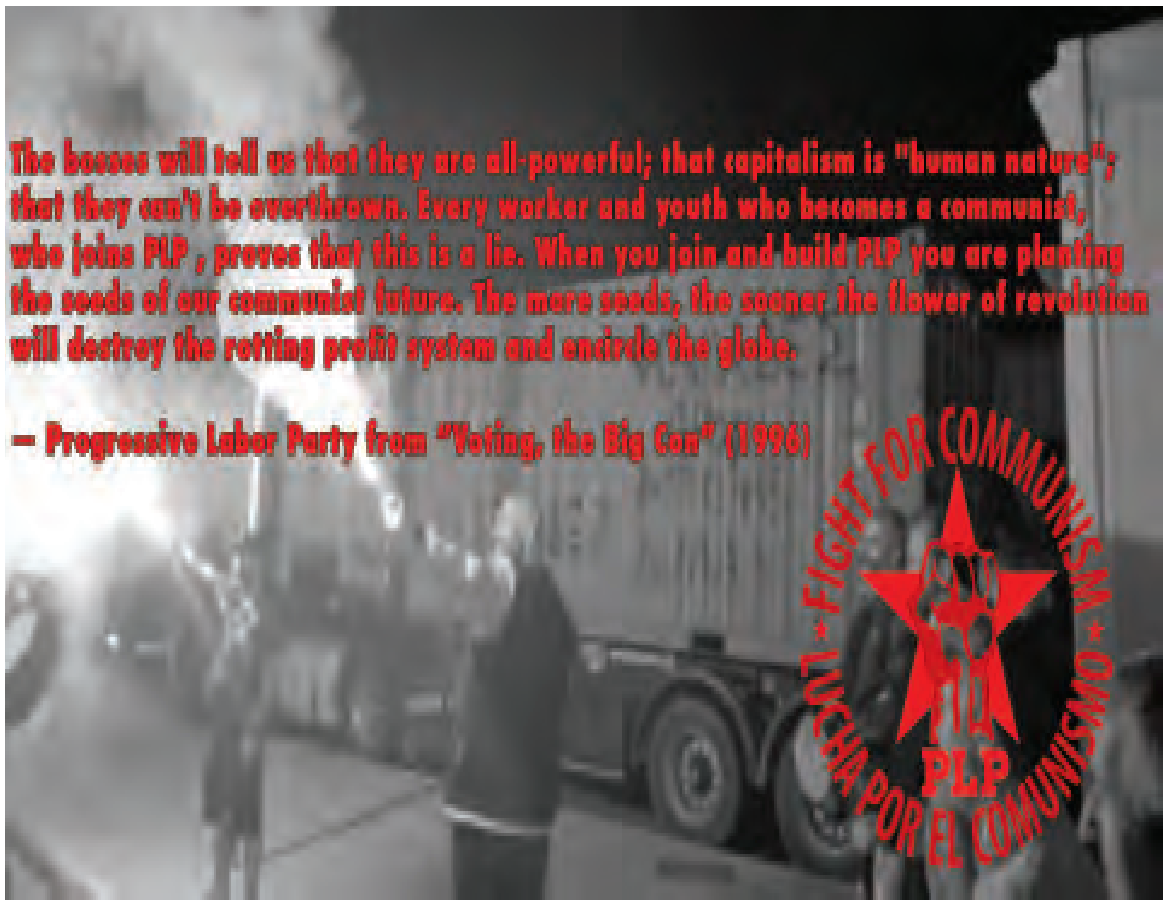
Saudi Arabia vies with Iran in imperialist ambitions

Foreign Affairs, 10/22–There are many Middle Eastern conflicts that could reshape the global political order. But the one most likely to do so is the battle between the region's two dominant powers: the kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Islamic Republic of Iran ... Iran and Saudi Arabia are both autocratic energy titans, collectively controlling nearly a third of the world's oil reserves and a fifth of its natural gas ... In Iran's 1979 revolution, protesters ... transformed the country from a U.S.-allied monarchy into an anti-American theocracy ... 1979 was also a pivotal year for Saudi Arabia ... the Saudi government abandoned modernization efforts and redirected vast resources to reactionary forces at home and abroad. The country empowered fundamentalist clerics to exercise control over education and the judiciary ... In exporting these policies, in part with U.S. encouragement ... Saudi Arabia spent tens of billions of dollars to fund thousands of mosques as well as jihadi groups that became the antecedents of the Taliban and al Qaeda.

Bosses in Dominican Republic take the ethnic cleansing route

Associated Press, 10/8–The Dominican Republic said Tuesday it has deported or repatriated nearly 11,000 Haitians in the past week, fulfilling a pledge to do so weekly ... The Dominican government announced last week that it would deport up to 10,000 Haitians a week ... These are the largest such deportations in recent history there. The announcement prompted Haitian officials to request an emergency meeting at the Organization of American States, where Haitian permanent representative Gandy Thomas called the deportations "a strategy of ethnic cleansing" and "a discriminatory campaign against Haitians due to their nationality and color of their skin." At least half a million Haitians live in the Dominican Republic, according to human rights groups ... The mass deportations have led to an increase in abandoned children across the Dominican Republic, warned activist William Charpentier ... "They take their parents, or one of the parents, and leave the children behind, even while they're in school."

VOTING THE BIG CON


The bosses will tell us that they are all-powerful; that capitalism is "human nature"; that they can't be overthrown. Every worker and youth who becomes a communist, who joins PLP , proves that this is a lie. When you join and build PLP you are planting the seeds of our communist future. The more seeds, the sooner the flower of revolution will destroy the rotting profit system and encircle the globe.
— Progressive Labor Party from "Voting, the Big Con" (1996)
FIGHT FOR COMMUNISM
LUCHA POR EL COMUNISMO
PLP

Instead of voting, we could organize to collectively shut down war production, ports, and docks around the world. Dock workers in Piraeus,Greece blocked 21 tons of ammunitions destined to arm the Israel genocide of workers in Palestine.

> *In 1956, I shall not go to the polls. I have not registered.. There is but one evil party with two names, and it will be elected despite all I can do or say. If a voter organizes or advocates a real third-party movement, he may be accused of seeking to overthrow this government by "force and violence." Anything he advocates by way of significant reform will be called "Communist" and will of necessity be Communist in the sense that it must advocate such things as government ownership of the means of production; government in business; the limitation of private profit; social medicine, government housing and federal aid to education; the total abolition of race bias; and the welfare state. These things are on every Communist program...*
>
> *-W.E.B. Du Bois from "Why I Won't Vote" (1956)*

This article is an excerpt from Voting the Big Con, a pamphlet written in 1996 during the Clinton and Dole presidential campaign. Today in 2024, the ruling class is holding another one of its every four years election circuses. This time their system is buried deeper in crisis and Holocaust Harris is being presented as the lesser evil fascist option next to revoltingly racist Trump (see editorial on page 2)

Democracy - Heads they win, tails we lose!

Under capitalism, the government and elections are controlled by the capitalist class, the rich rulers who control the factories, mines, mills, and offices. They use all electoral parties, Democratic, Republican and other parties, to maintain their profit system. Their interests are directly opposed to our interests, the well being of the working class. Our labor produces all goods and services, all value, and creates the profit they steal. No matter who we vote for, they still own everything and control what we produce. To change this we need communist revolution, then we make these decisions. It's either us or them.

Who's really in charge?

If the elected officials are just front men for the ruling class, who is really in charge? The richest and most powerful industrialists and bankers run capitalist countries. In the U.S. they rule through two powerful committees, the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) and the Trilateral Commission (TLC). The CFR is headed by a billionaire Zionist named David Rubenstein. The CFR makes major decisions on the use of the U.S. military and economic power. They set policy on the U.S. entry into World War II, Vietnam and other conflicts. They decide U.S. policy on the Middle East, China, Europe, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Sharp differences may very well break out in the CFR, but eventually one group of capitalists and their henchmen dominate. Right now the main wing rulers that dominate the CFR are facing a challenge by domestic capitalists that back Donald Trump and by China and Russia.

Why do capitalists hold elections?

If the bosses control both parties and the whole election process, why do they have them? Why spend millions and even billions on elections when the outcome is predictable: bosses win, workers lose? There are two main reasons. 1) Elections are held to distract us and make us think we have a say in what goes on, that we can reform capitalism or improve our lives by voting. 2) The bosses use elections to settle their own disagreements.

Elections push the illusion that Capitalism can be reformed

Elections are a diversion for workers who desperately want to fight for a better world. Instead of taking militant or armed action against the system, workers are suckered into trying to reform capitalism by voting for "better" candidates. They try to convince workers that the Democratic party or black, latin, or other politicians from marginalized groups will save them. If we recruit just 10% of these workers to the communist Progressive Labor Party, the world will be a very different place.

Democratic party - not the lesser of two evils, the greater evil

In the U.S., the bosses advertise the Democratic Party as the workers' representatives and contrast them to the ultra-right Republicans. Many think they are the lesser of two evils, but democrats the greater evil and danger to the working class (see editorial page 2). One only has to look at the last 4 years to see that their only accomplishment has been enabling and bankrolling a genocide.

Black and Latin politicians serve bosses, not workers

Historically, Black politicians, virtually all Democrats, have supported policies which increased the jailing and police murder of young black men. This is the job of all elected officials under capitalism. In New York City, Top Cop and current NYC Mayor Eric Adams gave $11 billion to his killer kkkops in the New York Police Department (NYPD).

Fascist Dictatorship is born from the womb of capitalist democracy

Many of the economic problems which exist in the

Continued on page 7

WRITE FOR CHALLENGE!

CHALLENGE strives to be the communist paper for and by the international working class. We call on all readers, supporters, and comrades to submit class struggle articles, analytical pieces, original photos and graphics, letters, and political cartoons.

The next deadline is night of Friday,November 8

Send to desafio.challenge@gmail.com. For some guidance and house style rules, please go to www.bit.ly/338ZJow

All submissions are open to collective discussion, struggle, and change. See sidebar on page 2 about fighting for collectivity and against a cult of the individual.

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